

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as described below. A marked version of the replacement paragraphs is submitted as Exhibit A, attached hereto, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b).

Please insert as the first paragraph of the specification the following:

A1
--This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/546,891,
filed April 10, 2000, ^{now abandoned} and entitled Monovinylaromatic Polymer with Improved Stress
Crack Resistance.--

A2
Please delete the first paragraph of the Description of the Preferred Embodiments
of the specification that spans pages 5 and 6, and replace it with the following paragraph:

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A2
The present invention discloses a thermoplastic composition containing a polymer of a monovinylaromatic compound which has been modified with an elastomer to increase its impact strength and environmental stress crack resistance, which compound is obtained by polymerizing the monovinylaromatic material in the presence of a combination of polymerization initiators and the elastomer. In the composition, the portion of the soft component in the polymer, which has been modified to increase its impact strength, is less than 28% by weight based on the polymer, the soft component being defined as the toluene-insoluble constituent of the polymer which has been modified to increase its impact strength, minus any pigment which may be present. The particular rubber utilized in the present invention could be one of several types, for example the type sold by Firestone and designated as Diene 55 having a Mooney viscosity of approximately 55, a number molecular weight of about 150,000, weight average molecular weight of about 300,000, and a Z molecular weight of about 500,000 as